NCA
VOC FOR IOP/FN
NEWS ANALYSIS 1-0901 JUNE 7, 1976
NYOKA WHITE/AFRICAN DIVISION

THE U.S. AND SOUTHERN AFRICA

ANNCR:

THE FORD ADMINISTRATION HAS ANNOUNCED UPCOMING MEETINGS WITH TWO HEADS OF STATE FROM AFRICA. ONE IS BLACK, ONE IS WHITE, AND BOTH ARE FROM ONE OF THE WORLD'S MOST RACIALLY TROUBLED AREAS -- SOUTHERN AFRICA. VOA'S NYOKA WHITE HAS THESE OBSERVATIONS.

VOICE:

PRESIDENT FORD WILL MEET WEDNESDAY (6/9) AT THE WHITE HOUSE WITH BOTSWANA PRESIDENT SIR SERETSE KHAMA. TWO WEEKS LATER, IN WEST GERMANY, SECRETARY OF STATE KISSINGER WILL MEET WITH SOUTH AFRICAN PRIME MINISTER JOHN VORSTER.

BOTH MEETINGS MUST BE SEEN IN THE CONTEXT OF DIPLOMATIC EFFORTS TO PREVENT RACIAL WAR IN SOUTHERN AFRICA. DURING HIS RECENT VISIT TO AFRICA, SECRETARY KISSINGER PLACED THE UNITED STATES UNEQUIVOCALLY ON THE SIDE OF BLACK MAJORITY RULE THERE. HE PLEDGED U.S. FINANCIAL AND DIPLOMATIC HELP TO FINDING A PEACEFUL ROAD TO THE SOLUTION OF SOUTHERN AFRICA'S PROBLEMS.

MR. KISSINGER HAS MET WITH A NUMBER OF BLACK AFRICAN LEADERS IN THIS QUEST, BUT THE MEETING WITH MR. VORSTER IS THE FIRST OFFICIAL CONTACT WITH A WHITE HEAD OF STATE FROM THAT REGION. (OPT) THE MEETING WITH VORSTER COMES AT THE URGING OF BLACK LEADERS IN THE UNITED STATES AND AFRICA WHO ARE CONCERNED THAT BOTH SIDES OF THE ISSUE BE HEARD. (END OPT)

SIR SERETSE KHAMA AND JOHN VORSTER ARE IN MANY WAYS AS FAR APART AS TWO LEADERS COULD BE. (OPT) SIR SERETSE HEADS A MULTI-PARTY DEMOCRATIC GOVERNMENT PROUD OF ITS MULTI-RACIAL

SOCIETY AND THE UNIVERSAL RIGHT TO VOTE. JOHN VORSTER'S SOUTH AFRICA IS ALMOST A SYNONYM FOR RACISM, A PLACE WHERE ONLY WHITES HAVE ANY REAL RIGHTS. (END OPT)

BUT THE TWO HEADS OF STATE DO SHARE THE COMMON GOAL OF PEACE IN SOUTHERN AFRICA. EACH IN HIS WAY AND FOR VARYING REASONS HAS BEEN WORKING TO ACHIEVE THAT GOAL. MR. VORSTER HAS INITIATED A PROGRAM OF DETENTE WITH BLACK AFRICA. PART OF THE PRICE OF THAT DETENTE HAS BEEN SOUTH AFRICAN PRESSURE AGAINST WHITE RHODESIA TO MOVE RAPIDLY TO BLACK MAJORITY RULE.

PRESIDENT KHAMA HAS WORKED TO PRESSURE WHITES IN RHODESIA AND SOUTH AFRICA TO MAKE CONCESSIONS TO BLACKS. IN RHODESIA, THE WHITE GOVERNMENT HAS COME UNDER INCREASING ATTACK FROM BLACK NATIONALIST GUERILLAS. IN SOUTH AFRICA, THERE IS INCREASING MILITANCY FROM BLACKS WHO FEEL THEY HELPED MAKE SOUTH AFRICA RICH AND NOW THEY WANT A SHARE OF THE WEALTH.

(OPT) SOUTH AFRICA ALSO CONTINUES ITS ILLEGAL HOLD ON THE MINERAL-RICH TERRITORY OF NAMIBIA. CONSTITUTIONAL TALKS ARE NOW BEING HELD IN NAMIBIA, BUT THE TALKS DO NOT INCLUDE REPRESENTATIVES OF THE TWO LEADING BLACK NATIONALIST GROUPS. (END OPT)

(OPT) ELSEWHERE IN SOUTHERN AFRICA, MOZAMBIQUE AND ANGOLA ARE ONLY NOW BEGINNING TO RECOVER FROM THEIR LONG COLONIAL AND CIVIL WARS. THEY ARE FACED WITH UNREST FROM A DISGRUNTLED POPULATION THAT THOUGHT INDEPENDENCE WOULD BRING THE GOOD LIFE IMMEDIATELY. (END OPT)

BUT THE SOUTHERN AFRICAN SITUATION IS NOT ONLY A MATTER OF BRINGING PEACE TO THE REGION. IT IS A MATTER OF ECONOMIC SURVIVAL IN AN AREA THAT COULD SERVE AS A DEFINITION OF MR. KISSINGER'S WORD "INTERDEPENDENCE." THE ECONOMIES ARE SO

INTERTWINED THAT WHAT HAPPENS TO ONE OF THE COUNTRIES IS BOUND TO AFFECT THE OTHERS.

(OPT) AS ONE EXAMPLE -- RAILROADS ARE A PRINCIPLE MEANS OF EXPORT FOR MANY OF THE COUNTRIES OF SOUTHERN AFRICA, AND THERE ARE FEW RAILROADS. WHEN RHODESIA AND ZAMBIA CLOSED THEIR BORDER SEVERAL YEARS AGO, RHODESIA LOST MILLIONS OF DOLLARS IN EXPORT REVENUES. ZAMBIA WAS FORCED TO ROUTE IS COPPER EXPORTS HUNDREDS OF MILES OUT OF THE WAY, SENDING THEM NORTH THROUGH TANZANIA TO THE ALREADY OVER-BURDENED PORT AT DAR ES SALAAM. WHEN MOZAMBIQUE DECIDED TO CLOSE ITS BORDER WITH RHODESIA RECENTLY AS ADDED PRESSURE AGAINST THE WHITE REGIME, MOZAMBIQUE WAS FORCED TO ASK FOR INTERNATIONAL AID TO COMPENSATE FOR THE LOSS OF TRANSPORT REVENUES. (END OPT)

SO EVERY NATION IN SOUTHERN AFRICA HAS A STAKE IN FINDING AN ACCEPTABLE PEACEFUL SOLUTION TO THE RACIAL DIFFICULTIES. THERE ARE RESPECTED LEADERS IN AFRICA -- TANZANIA'S PRESIDENT JULIUS NYERERE AMONG THEM -- WHO FEEL IT IS ALREADY TOO LATE TO PREVENT A RACIAL WAR, THAT WHITES HAVE IGNORED BLACK DEMANDS TOO LONG. BUT THE FORD ADMINISTRATION HOPES A PEACEFUL SOLUTION MAY STILL BE POSSIBLE, AND IT BELIEVES NO SUCH SOLUTION CAN BE FOUND WITHOUT THE WILL OF BOTH BLACKS AND WHITES. THAT'S WHY THE MEETING WITH BOTSWANA'S SIR SERETSE KHAMA. THAT'S WHY THE MEETING WITH SOUTH AFRICA'S JOHN VORSTER.

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